

May 24, 1973

Dickinson, when he brings up labor. Labor is not down here, Senator, asking for Government to negotiate an agreement with any company with--for them. I belong to a labor union, it's true, and we go to the company and we negotiate. We do not ask Government to do it for us. In fact is, we'd like to have Government stay out of it. We could get a better deal. We, we'll do it directly with the company so I don't think where--labor has anything to do with it in here and since you brought up my name, I don't think it has anything to do with the bill coming to the Legislature. Has any labor union come to the Legislature and asked you to set electrician's salaries, or machinist's salaries or something like that? Now I might try that sometime because maybe this Legislature in one of their wildest moments would get me more than I'm getting now.

PRESIDENT: Just a minute. I overlooked a name that had been already written down here a minute ago. Senator Kremer is next to speak. Senator Kremer, then Whitney, then Snyder, Stahmer, Keyes and Proud. Now we have before the body the issue of the specific amendment on select file to LB 526. Now, Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, only briefly. I think we need to focus our attention for a little bit on the history of co-ops. Now those of you that have studied co-ops and the origin ought to be reminded that there was a time when grain interests were actually stealing those that produced foodstuffs, blind and at that time the Federal Government saw the plight of this situation and did provide legislation that would allow the agriculture interests to organize under co-operatives and gave them certain rights and privileges. Privilege probably is a good word. Now then, everyone knows that foodstuffs today is practically the only commodity we have left to bring about a balance of trade in the world market. In many of our small towns and cities the only type of marketing service that we have for our grain is a co-op and many of these are in a shaky position and if they should happen to fail which I predict they will and some have in my own community, we're going to see some of these farmers now that do not even have rail service any more to find no place to market their grain and if we can kill the co-ops they're going to see the big interests again taking advantage of these things to offer to the world a, a foodstuff that's below the cost of production and it's going to create problems again in agriculture that we experienced in years before then. Now I feel that where Nebraska is wrong is the fact we're not giving the same consideration the Federal Government is willing to give and this is our problem and this is all the Duis amendment does. It, it would ask that Nebraska give the same consideration to the co-ops that the Federal Government is giving and all the other 49 states is giving.

CLERK: Motion on the desk, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion on the desk.

CLERK: Motion read.

PRESIDENT: Previous question has been called--all those in favor--does the Chair see 5 hands? Question is shall the debate now close? All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote no. Clerk will record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 5 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT: Very good. Debate will now close. Chair recognizes Senator Duis. Excuse me, Senator Simpson.